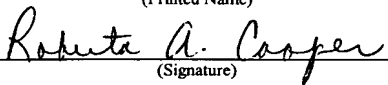




Atty. Dkt. No. 039153-0647 (H0976)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Paton et al.  
Title: PRE-CLEANING FOR  
SILICIDATION IN AN  
SMOS PROCESS  
Appl. No.: 10/619,879  
Filing Date: 07/15/2003  
Examiner: Thao P. Le  
Art Unit: 2818  
Confirmation No.: 7815

<b>CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING</b>	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.	
EV 431583090 US	06/01/04
(Express Mail Label Number)	(Date of Deposit)
Roberta A. Cooper	
(Printed Name)	
	
(Signature)	

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111**

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated March 2, 2004, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 5 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: